

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennia. Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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PRAYING ABOUT THE WAR

By THE EDITOR

Before you get this paper, millions of people, we trust, in the United States and in the British Empire will heed the American President's and the English king's call to prayer on New Year's Day. President Roosevelt in a call to prayer said, "Therefore I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, president of the United States of America, do hereby appoint the first day of the year 1942 as a day of prayer for asking forgiveness of our shortcomings of the past, of consecration to the tasks of the present, of asking God's help in days to come. We need guidance that this people may be humble in spirit but strong in the conviction of the right, steadfast to endure sacrifice, and brave to achieve victory of liberty and peace."

Those are noble sentiments, simply expressed. We do need to confess our shortcomings, our sins as a nation. We should confess our worldliness, our indifference about the murder of helpless millions while we enjoy every luxury, we should confess our national guilt in the liquor problem, and each of us should confess our own individual sins, along with the sins of the nation. Daniel's prayer in the ninth chapter of Daniel, in which he confessed his own sins, the sins of his people and king, should be a model to us in such a time.

And then it is perfectly proper to pray for help for the present and for wisdom for the future. It is proper for every Christian in America to pray about the war.

In the recent revival campaign with the Peoples Church of Toronto, I was very much impressed when each Sunday night the great congregation sang the national anthem, "God Save Our King." The English national hymn is really a

prayer, a prayer for victory in war and blessings in peace. Then in the service, I think every night, some one prayed publicly for the war, for the success of the British and Canadian armies, for the protection of the English speaking people, for the defeat of Hitler, and his criminal Axis partners. And I felt profoundly that it was proper and right for Christians to pray about the war.

When Solomon built the temple at Jerusalem, in his inspired prayer of dedication, he said to the Lord, "If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the Lord toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name: Then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause" (I Kings 8:44, 45). That prayer was inspired, and then was recorded by divine inspiration. It is proper, therefore, for Christians to pray for victory in a war.

How many times did David pray about his enemies! In Psalm 35: 1-8 is a divinely inspired prayer of David:

"Plead my cause, O Lord, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me."

"Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for mine help."

"Draw out also the spear, and stop the way against them that persecute me: say unto my soul, I am thy salvation."

"Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: Let them be turned back and

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Wide Interest in New Book by the Editor

How many hundreds of thousands of Christian women in America love the Lord and want to please Him and yet offend God every day and ignore His plain teaching in the Bible by wearing bobbed hair! For the last year or two the editor in his evangelistic meetings has often given an afternoon sermon on "Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives, and Women Preachers." He was surprised to find the interest so great that he could sometimes get as large a crowd in midafternoon to hear that sermon as he could get in the evening on other subjects. So after more than a year's work he produced the new book on that subject.

The book is a beautiful volume; bound in royal blue cloth; stamped in gold and covered with a golden-rod jacket, printed in blue, as shown in the cut. The cover pictures: first, a woman in a barber's chair having her hair cut; second, a meek husband quailing before his angry wife; and third, an attractive young woman preacher in the pulpit, and under each an appropriate Scripture (not shown on this illustration).

There are 91 pages, 6 chapters. By contracting for 10,000 copies at once we are able to offer this lovely book at only 50c a copy, or 5 copies for \$2.00.

There are three pictures: (1) Mrs. Rice and the editor's six

daughters, (2) the editor's daughter, Mary Lloyds, at fourteen, showing her long braids, (3) another of the editor's daughters, Elizabeth, showing her long wavy hair before the mirror. The book is so attractively written and printed and illustrated that we believe all who see it will want to read it and will find it difficult to lay aside until finished.

The 6 chapter headings with the table of contents is given here to show the wide range of the book.



The Influence of a Christian Home

By R. G. LEE, D.D., LL.D., LITT.D.

Pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" — Joshua 24:15

"Let them learn first to show piety at home" — I Timothy 5:4

I. The Wonder of Home

God made Adam out of the dust of the ground and breathed into his body the breath of life. Thus Adam became a living soul. Before his Maker he stood innocent and unspotted. But with all his glory, power and pleasure, Adam was lonely, solitary. God saw that amid all this creative works, which He pronounced good, that it was not good for man to be alone. Woman was, therefore, created—made from Adam's rib. She was brought to man—and there, in the sinless garden, they were united in holy wedlock. Upon this pure and primal pair God bestowed His divine blessing. They were commanded to found a worthy race, subdue the earth into utility, and rule the world for God. Thus God established the home as a unit of society. Centuries before there was a state, school or church, there were homes instituted by God as places where men and women should live together in love and in happiness, where children should be born and reared. This fellowship of married love and the home which it builds is God's supreme gift to man and the safeguard of civilization. The matter of supreme importance to the nation is not the schools, not the state, not the national government, but homes which produce a noble civilization.

The home may be made in a tent, a rented house, an apartment, a mansion, a cabin. The home, as one has said, is a fold that shelters the family from the wolves of lust, strife, unbelief—a harbor in which souls anchor and abide secure from the storms of doubt and carnal stress that are without—a fortress from whose citadel the armed forces of love, truth, chastity, go forth to bless the world—a sanctuary in which faith builds an altar, opens the door of prayer and yields life and life's destiny to God. Moreover, a Christian home is an ante-room to heaven where husband and wife "submit themselves

one to another in the fear of God," where parents rear their children in God's nurture and admonition, where children obey their parents, where God's Word has a place, where the Sabbath rolls in tender blessing over the threshold—a field where love grows its orchard of most delicious fruits. Most of what heaven is, our homes may be if we serve God and give Christ's religion the main track and not the side-track. A church within a church, a republic within a republic, a world within a world, a kingdom within a kingdom is spelled in four letters—HOME. If things go right there, they go right everywhere. The doorsills of homes are the foundations of church and state. No man ever gets higher than his own garret nor lower than his own cellar. The highest house of congress is the domestic circle. The rocking-chair in a Christian nursery is higher than a throne. It is not too much to say that though George Washington commanded the forces of the United States Mary Washington commanded George. Chrysostom's mother sharpened his pen for him and kindled unquenchable spiritual fires in his heart. If a man should start out to run seventy years in a straight line, he could not get from under the shadow of his own mantle-piece. If the modern mother throws the cares of her household into a servant's lap and spends the afternoons and nights at clubs, operas, theaters, she may clothe her children with satins and laces that would confound a French milliner, but her children are orphans. And there are too many orphans today.

Home implies a man who works, a woman who is good, a child who is taught. Only the man who works is a good citizen, for he assumes his due responsibility and his veins are the veins of blessing to any land. Only the woman who is good is fit for mothering—and the world needs mothers more than states-

men, poets, scientists or professors. Only the child who is taught is reared to be a blessing.

Do you want to reform society? Don't mount the soap-box and give circumlocutory cycles of oratorical sonority. Go home! Don't turn columnist. Go home! No movement will move unless it moves there. No reform unless it originates there. No law stands unless it is favored there. No religion prospers unless it is usable there. A real democracy, after all, is a cluster of homes, not individuals. What institution irritates the apostles of unrest? What institution disgusts the cantankerous radical? What institution confuses the wild purposes of the grouch propagandist? The home! The home is the heart of civilization. A wise teacher of the ancient world said: "give me a single domestic grace and I will turn it into one hundred public virtues." The home is like a reservoir pouring water into every avenue in moral life, in social life, in political life, in all life. If there are not enough moral principles to make the family adhere, there will not be enough political principles to make the state adhere. The same storm that upsets the ship in which the family sails will sink the frigate of the Constitution. The door of the home is the best fortress. Household utensils are the best artillery against evil invasions.

II. The Home Is a Neglected Agency of God Today

This is to say that there is a damaging if not damning decline in home piety and home spiritual—

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

Teacher of S. S. Class Of 50, Saved Through "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

From Cochran, Georgia, came the following remarkable letter:

"Dear Brother Rice: A few weeks ago one of my girl friends from Florida mailed me a copy of 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' and after reading it, I realized I, too, was a sinner; so I began to read my Bible and pray, and now I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour. It was hard at first; but I got right down and poured out my burdened heart and trusted Him completely—and how happy I am now. Praise God He saved me from a burning Hell."

"I am married but very young, seventeen, and I want to show others the way and help them as my girl friend helped me. I have a Sunday School class of fifty, but they're not saved; so I am asking you to please send me fifty copies of your little book, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' so that they, too, can read and maybe be saved. If you have any more material that you think would help me, will you send it to me as I am young and understand so little of God's Word, but am willing to hold God's name higher than ever."

"I need your help."

"Sincerely,

(Signed) "Mrs. E. S. —"

"Route —"

"Cochran, Georgia."

How thankful we are that a girl friend sent this young married woman, herself only a girl, a copy

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

America at War Enters 1942

Into a year of bloodshed
We drag reluctant feet;
Oh Thou, the God of battles,
For this year make us meet.
Be Thou our arms, our valor,
Be Thou our refuge sweet.

Go with us, Lord, we beg Thee,
Into the coming year;
Without Thee we must tremble
And faint for grief and fear.
But bombs and death and hatred
Alarm not with Thee near.

Thy sword, Oh God, for vengeance,
We dare not trust our own
To stop the foul oppression;
And let us not alone
Try losing slav'ry's bondage,
Or still the whole world's moan.

But we shall gladly enter
Wherever Thou dost lead;
Thy rod, Thy staff, they comfort
Among death's valley reeds,
Thy goodness and Thy mercy
Supplying all our needs.

— John R. Rice.

The Influence of a Christian Home

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

ity. There is a decline of family religion that predicts disaster among us. With the decay of our home life will come the decay of civilization. The home is where the alphabet of the gospel is first learned; and when our homes become the generators of spiritual influences, we shall witness an infusion of new power in the life of the churches. One of our great handicaps in church life today is the indifference of many homes to spiritual values.

There are evidences that the influence of the home is less strong on the constructive side than in earlier days. The home has experienced difficulty in keeping pace with alternative diversions, in consequence of which the parent-child relationship is threatened. The influence of the home is foundational and primary. So obvious is this fact that it seems unnecessary to labor the point. The defective home is the primary cause of prostitution, drunkenness, idleness, and all the evils and isms that would cause us to hand down our blood-bequeathed legacies reduced in quality and in quantity. The purification and power of our national life is dependent upon the home. The over-production of spiritual pygmies today is traceable to the absence of great homes. Great homes are necessary to produce great men, whether that home be a cabin on the hill, a tent by the river brink, a cottage by the roadside, a mansion on the boulevard, or a farmhouse amid far-reaching acres. In Christian households is the hope of America.

We have education today, but education has not eliminated crime, even though our great educational leaders of the last century promised the abolishment of crime if only we would educate—build schools, support them, and pass compulsory attendance laws for all children. These well-intentioned men said then that in a generation crime would be a thing of the past. We did all this—but crime is still with us. On unimpeachable authority, we have the cost of crime in this country—fifteen billions of dollars—over-topping by some billions a year all the money spent for educational, religious and charitable purposes put together. As Livy said of his day, "Our vices have risen to so great a height that we can endure neither the burden of them nor the sharpness of their remedy."

The world we live in contains all the elements of Joshua's world—the same gods beckon and the same forces prevail. The conscienceless profiteer inflames the feeling of fear and hate in the name of patriotism. The literary camp-followers of the new psychology flatter men's passions in the name of science. Self-labeled scholarship summons the Bible to appear at the bar of human reason. The hucksters of finance tease with their ballyhoo in the name of security. The alternatives again spread before us—the inevitable option—God or Mammon, Jesus or Venus. Ultimately, like the spider, we weave the web of our destiny out of the stuff of our own being.

III. The Home Functions for God and Civilization When —

1. *There is Parental Authority.* Lawlessness in the nation gets its start by the fireside. The child that respects not the authority of parents will not respect the authority of God and "the powers that be" when he comes to manhood. Many children are ruined by the over-indulgence of a pair of easy-going, church-complacent parents.

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God said about Abraham, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord." Today, parental authority, as some wit has said, has not disappeared, but has only changed hands. Children have taken it over, he says.

"I was visiting once in a home where the little boy of the home, about six or seven years of age, insisted on picking the kitten of the house up by the tail. The kitten squirmed and squaled. The mother said, "Put the kitten down!" But he did not do so. She said: "If you don't put the kitten down, I'll switch you!" But he held onto the kitten as though it were a purse with many shining dollars in it. Then she said: "If you don't put the kitten down, the preacher will bite you!" But he didn't put the kitten down—and I didn't bite the little chap. But I left, saying to myself, "A criminal career is being started in that home."

Will Durant, famous poet and philosopher, speaking in Knoxville, Tennessee, urged the revival of parental authority as the remedy for moral decay today. He said, "All character in America has been generated in the countryside where parental authority is strong and has died in the cities where parental authority is weak. While the youth of America is faced with great problems and probably being led to the abysses and horrors of war, it is eating gold fish and reading smutty stories. Almost fifty per cent of the next generation is growing up without that implantation of decency."

Recently I spoke in Chicago. While there I read from the Chicago Tribune a case of parental buck-passing on youths' scandals. A nasty case of juvenile immorality in the Morton High School was brought up. The high school students were involved in scandal and hell-raising. There, as is a frequent tendency everywhere, was a tendency to call the school board or the teacher to account. They forgot that the principal responsibility for the conduct of their children rests in their parents—and not with the school teachers. Judge Bieck summoned forty fathers in the Juvenile Court and charged them with this responsibility. Their sons were in trouble—some started on criminal careers. The Judge said: "Parental neglect causes ninety per cent of our juvenile cases." Then he said that parents are legally responsible for civil damages due to their children. "They might well also be placed in the dock beside children charged with criminal offenses, not to be tried for those offenses, but to be tried to ascertain whether their negligence contributed to these moral offenses."

Mr. L. E. Thomas, boys' secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in Memphis, Tennessee, told me of some boys who were caught stealing golf balls at the "Stop and Sock" Golf Club. The fathers and mothers of these boys called Mr. Thomas in to counsel with him as to what to do with these boys. Can you imagine the old-fashioned fathers and mothers of a generation past doing a thing like that? My old father—deacon for forty-two years in a Baptist church—would have done no such absurd thing. Nor my mother. Nor yours. Parents of years gone by would have done a little "socking and stopping" on their own account. I think we need some old-fashioned, Bible-loving, God-fearing, children-bearing, and children-ruling fathers and mothers who "command their children after them." Too many children, born of Godless parents, are more damned into the world than born into it.

2. *We must have Christian experience and influence.*

Too many so-called homes are mere lunch counters with lodging quarters attached—places where children stay while the automobile is being fixed or when the movies are not running. Many children do not have a real chance to get acquainted with their parents nor parents with their children.

Out of one hundred and twenty ministers who were addressed in a western state, one hundred said that Christian influence in the home had much to do with their conversion and service in the ministry. A large proportion of young

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Praying About War

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

brought to confusion that devise my hurt.

"Let them be as chaff before the wind; and let the angel of the Lord chase them."

Let their way be dark and slippery; and let the angel of the Lord persecute them.

"For without cause have they hid for me their net in a pit, which without cause they have digged for my soul."

"Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he hath hid catch himself; into that very destruction let him fall."

And do not Americans have a right to pray such a prayer, that God would plead our cause, and fight against them that fight against us? Should we not ask God "Stop the way against them that persecute me?" Should we not pray about the Japanese, "Let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt?"

In Psalm 59:1 David prayed, "Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me." And again in Psalm 94 the inspired prayer is:

"O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself."

"Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud."

"Lord, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?"

Perhaps some reader has been taught by the modernists and unbelievers to say that such prayers were not inspired of God, and this is not the spirit of the New Testament. But I remind you that the New Testament and the Old Testament were inspired by the same God. And let no one talk to you about a so-called "progressive revelation," if they mean that God at one time taught one thing and now teaches something different. The Old Testament is the Word of God. The first line of the Bible is as definitely inspired, as infallibly correct, as the last one. The only sense in which there is any progressive revelation is that God added more revelation. He did not add a higher quality of revelation. God did not raise a higher standard of morals. God did not disqualify the Old Testament by giving the New. God gives the same teaching in the New Testament as in the Old.

For example, in Luke 18 Jesus gave the story of the widow before the unjust judge, and then He said, "And shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily." (Luke 18:7, 8). I had long read that parable as a beloved teaching on importunity, on supplication, on continuing in earnest prayer until the answer came; but such prayer is particularly invited by the Saviour on the matter of vengeance against wicked men. God promises to avenge speedily, those who cry day and night unto Him. America, then would be following the plain teaching of our dear Saviour, New Testament teaching, if they should cry day and night to God to avenge Pearl Harbor and to avenge the senseless and inhuman bombing of civilian population in Manila, to avenge the murder of a million Chinese, to avenge the poor of Czechoslovakia, of Poland, of Belgium, of Holland and France, and other oppressed nations overrun by the blood-thirsty criminals of the Axis powers.

God Has a Part in This War

Let no one feel that this war is of no concern to God, that He sits idly by and does nothing about it and cares nothing about it. Communists in America have gone up and down the land forming peace societies, trying to alienate men in our Army and Navy and Air force, trying to develop a sentiment in youth organizations against ever going to war for any cause. These blood-thirsty enemies of society who plan to overthrow America, intended first to break down loyalty to America. And then the modernists, men who did not believe the Bible, men who do not believe that there is anything inherently wrong with mankind, do not believe that men need new hearts, do not believe in hell and

judgment, nor in the punishment of sin, I say such modernists have often been pacifists. In the Federal Council of Churches many such men built sentiment against support of the government in time of war. Then among Fundamental bodies of Christians, some were so finely spun in their theories that they felt affairs of government were beneath the notice of a true Christian. How shocked some of them were when in a revival campaign service on the Fourth of July we sang, "God Bless America." And how some Fundamental preachers poohed-poohed the idea of an evangelist fighting hard against the liquor traffic from the pulpit, and calling on Christians everywhere to put down the beastly and Godless traffic which makes paupers and drunkards and harlots, which corrupts government, breaks homes, and damns souls! I say some people who are very orthodox in theory, in this matter were self-righteous Pharisees who seemed to feel it was none of their business to support righteousness in government, and such people sometimes discourage the idea that God is concerned about the war. But I tell you frankly, according to the Scripture, all the issues of the war are in His hands and we have a right to come to God about it in earnest prayer.

Our cause is a just cause. American people have not always been right. The present administration has long been wrong on many points, I believe, notably in the encouragement of the liquor traffic, in the encouragement of radicalism in labor circles, in extravagant spending, etc. But in the issues involved in this war America is right. God Himself is against the wickedness of Adolf Hitler in his war aims and war policies. I am as sure of that as I can be. I know that God Himself abominates the deceit, the murderous disregard for human life, and the wicked greed of the Japanese, in their overrunning China, and in their attempt to take by force the whole Asiatic territory adjacent to Japan. God hates sin. America ought to have hated it long ago. When we went on our self-satisfied way selling scrap-iron to Japan, with which to murder Chinese God hated it. God is not just an American God. We are not the pet of His providence. God would not take up for us simply because we think we are better than others. But God hates sin, and the violence, and the bloodshed, the lies, the deceit, the murderous disregard for the rights of the people are wicked sins. Those things God hates and wants to put down. If God's people will call upon Him and trust Him and put ourselves at His service, honestly forsaking and hating our sins, then we may expect the rich blessing of God upon our arms, and we may expect victory in this war. I say, God has a part in this war. God is on the side of the right and our cause is just. We have a right to come to God in prayer. In many other matters we have sinned, but in the matter of this war, I verily believe, in the main, our hands are clean, and we have a cause upon which we can honestly ask God's blessing.

God could answer our prayers to His own glory, if we pray aright. If the people of America and England and Canada and Australia, the Christians in China, and in the overrun countries of Europe will pray—if we pray with humiliation, with confession of our sin, with a turning of hearts back to God, then the war may be a great blessing to us, and it would be proper and right in such a case for God to give us victory and put down the awful crime wave among the nations today.

I know that we will never have perfect peace until Jesus comes, but we are plainly taught to pray, "For the kings, and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life..." (1 Tim. 2:2). Our nation is not perfect and will not be perfect. There are many, many unsaved people among us who hinder, but God is able in His great mercy to hear our cry and answer our prayer and give us great victory in this war against Japan, Germany, and Italy.

What Shall We Pray For?

How shall Christians pray about the war? I offer some suggestions. First, pray definitely. I have felt led to pray each day that God would give us good news from the

war fronts. And how my heart has rejoiced to hear day by day that the Dutch forces have averaged sinking one Japanese ship each day of the war! We have had some bad news, and we may have more, but thank God, on the whole we have had blessed help from God. I say we should be definite in earnest, daily prayer, for daily help, daily progress toward victory.

Second, I think we should pray that God will cause confusion in the councils of the enemy. When David fled from Absalom, his son who had seized the throne of Israel, Ahithophel, a great wise man and one of David's chief counselors, stayed with Absalom. But note how David prayed: "O Lord, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness." (II Sam. 15:31). God answered the prayer of David; Absalom was led to disregard the counsel of Ahithophel, and as a result was defeated and David regained his throne. Have we not a right also to pray this prayer, that God will turn the counsel of Japanese and German leaders into foolishness?

Third, we ought to pray earnestly for victory, that God will give victory soon. That will cost in blood and tears, but we are in this war, and we must see it through boldly. Not long ago I heard some Christian young men pray, and one prayed, "Oh, Lord, if it be thy will keep us out of this war." Mind you, that is when other men are giving their lives, when the nation may be in most desperate danger. Naturally men want to live out our own plans, have safety. But rather,

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BOOKS

BY DR. R. G. LEE

In this issue of *The Sword of the Lord* is a remarkable sermon, "The Influence of a Christian Home," by Dr. Robert G. Lee, pastor of the Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee. This great southern Baptist preacher and author has a gift of speech for God such as few men have. The sermon in this issue is taken from his new book, "Glory Today for Conquest Tomorrow." There are seven great sermons in 158 pages. The book is cloth bound. This is a great book which should be on every preacher's shelves and in many other homes. Other sermons in the book will stir your heart as "The Influence of a Christian Home," published in this issue.

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unsaved husbands. The way to win husbands, I Peter 3:1-7. Will unsaved husbands command wives to sin? No, the Bible works! Husband will not want the right kind of Christian wife to sin. What if wives are wiser than husbands? How one woman won her husband.

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Human opinions differ. Questions cannot be settled by logic, by opinion, nor by feeling. Impressions that are contrary to the Bible not from the Spirit of God. I Timothy 2:11-15 says no women to teach or usurp authority over men. Based on fundamental differences in man and woman since creation. Women permitted to teach younger women, to teach children, to win souls, but to be in silence as far as teaching men or the whole church, or having any place of authority over men or over the church. Pastors have authority from God to rule, so no woman could be a bishop or pastor. Evangelists were to "command and teach," so Bible forbids woman to be evangelist. I Corinthians 14:34, 35 commands women to be silent in the church. Addressed to all Christians everywhere, therefore binding today. Women forbidden to have authority in the church, likewise commanded to be silent in other mixed gatherings, as far as official teaching or preaching is concerned. There were no women pastors, evangelists, Bible teachers or preachers in New Testament times. Prophetesses were never preachers, never addressed public assemblies. Prophecy is not preaching in Old Testament or New Testament. The case of Agabus. Mistakes of the Scofield Reference Bible. What Acts 2:17, 18 means. Deborah did not preach. Prophetesses obeyed the command to be silent in the church. Arguments for women preachers answered: "Have done so much good," "Women say they are called to preach," "Unfair discrimination," "Women missionaries."

V. Bobbed Hair, the Sign of a Woman's Rebellion Against Father and God.....66

Bible has only incidental teach-

ing about women's clothes, or to be modest. Lipstick, rouge, painted fingernails not expressly forbidden, but seem worldly. But on bobbed hair the Bible is very clear. I Corinthians 11:3-9 examined. Men and women are not alike physically or mentally. A sin for women to be masculine, men effeminate. Why men should wear short hair, take off hats for prayer and worship. New Testament ceremonial symbols with rich spiritual meaning: baptism, the Lord's Supper, laying on of hands, and short hair for men, long hair for women commanded. Christian women should wear long hair "because of the angels." How bobbed hair might tempt angels to unforgivable sin of rebellion. Long hair, the glory of a woman. What masculine, rebellious women have lost—the respect and reverence of men. Long hair for little girls, too. "If any man seem to be contentious." Excuses answered.

VI. The Horrible Sin of Rebellion.....83

The subject not primarily the hair, but the heart. Appeal to men as well as women. Face the question of surrender to God's will and authority. Learn to be subject in homes, schools, churches, business, government. Surrender to the will of God. Not too much, considering what Christ has done for you. Decision slip for sinners. Surrender to Christ.

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD PUBLISHERS

512 W. Franklin, Wheaton, Illinois

Blessings Follow Grand Rapids Revival

The editor has a fine letter from Pastor Howard A. Keithley of the Berean Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, where he was engaged from Sunday, October 19 through Sunday, November 2. With Pastor Keithley's consent we publish the following from his letter and rejoice and thank God and take courage.

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner Coit and Sweet St.
Howard A. Keithley, Pastor
Grand Rapids, Michigan

November 22, 1941

"Dr. John R. Rice
"512 West Franklin St.
"Wheaton, Illinois.

"Dear Brother Rice:

"It may be you have been looking for a letter from me ere this. Each day I have been thinking of writing you, though I did intend to wait for a week or more after the meetings closed. I trust this word finds you in good health and, I know, enjoying the rich blessing of the Lord.

"There has been a continual tide of blessing following your ministry here. The hearts of most of the folk (very few exceptions I'm sure) are still rejoicing....

"The first prayer meeting after the close of the meetings was a blessed one. And every time opportunity is given for testifying many refer to the blessings of the "Rice meetings." We are planning a baptismal service for the last Sunday of November and the first two Sundays of December. About 58 are to be baptized. These are among those who came forward while you were here.

"You will be interested to know that several conversions followed the last meeting. One lady was present from Holland, Michigan, and was so stirred up she could not rest until she lead her husband to the Lord that night. He was an unsaved Methodist. Two Sunday nights later he came to church and made a public confession. Monday morning following the close a father called me by phone and said his 12 year old boy was so exercised about the salvation of his younger 10 year old brother that before they went to sleep that night he lead him to the Lord. On Monday evening our boy, Paul, called his mother to his bedroom and with tears in his eyes said he wasn't saved and wanted to be. He had made a profession several years earlier but we were none too sure of its genuineness. Upon questioning he said he wanted to be saved because he had been listening to Mr. Rice. So you can im-

Praying About War

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

let us pray that God will make us good soldiers and sailors, good air men, if that be His will for us, and to keep us safely in duty. It is safe anywhere in the will of God. I believe that every Christian soldier who flies a pursuit plane ought to pray, "Oh, God let me bring down a bomber" and every Christian air man in the American forces who flies a bomber ought to pray, "Oh, God, let me sink a Japanese battleship if it be thy will. I believe that every Christian general, or any executive officer in our forces ought to pray, "Oh, God, help me to map this campaign so as to bring swift and sure and just victory, according to thy will." Congressmen should pray, our President should pray for wisdom. We should pray for them. We ought to pray that God will make our men the right kind of soldiers, but especially that God will put His blessing on the efforts and crown our efforts with a victory soon, and that we will let Him have the honor and glory of the victory.

Fourth, I believe it is obviously our duty to pray that God will protect our people; to pray that God will keep the boys in the Army and in the Navy, and in the Air Force. I think that every Christian ought to pray such a prayer every day. I think it ought to be mentioned around every altar and in every church service. Now is a time to be Christian patriots. How can one who is not a good citizen be a good Christian? Let us pray for the civilian population in Hawaii, in Manila. Let us pray for people upon the seas, likely to become the victims of submarine attacks.

Fifth, we need to pray earnestly for the forces of evil that would ruin the lives of our boys in the army. Around every army camp there are those who would take the soldier's money, blight his body, and damn his soul. Saloons where soldiers drink, the bawdy houses where they go into sin and are infected with venereal diseases are as much the enemies of America as any Jap bombing or any German submarines. Those who think that all the soldier boys need are more girls to dance with, and cigarettes and beer at cheaper prices, are so foolish and near-sighted that they ought not to be trusted in leadership anywhere in America. We ought to love our boys, we ought to be grateful to them, we ought to see that they have the best chance for happiness that is available in reasonable limits. But far more important than these incidental matters of amusement is to see that they are not wrecked in body, warped in character, and damned in soul. France's alcoholic and syphilis-cursed army could not stand before the German panzer units. If American manhood is wrecked by vice and disease, then America will lose this war, and we will lose far more—we will lose our American integrity and morality, and millions will lose their souls forever. Let us pray then, and then back up our prayers with

agine how happy we are about the meetings.

"That following week I called in a home and met the husband of a lady who had attended about five of the special services. After talking with them for a brief time I asked him if he was a Christian. He confessed he wasn't. Turning to her I asked the same question. She said she wasn't a Christian either but that she couldn't go on feeling the way she was. She said she could hardly sleep nights and was miserable all day long. And you were to blame—under the blessing of the Lord. Both of them knelt to confess the Lord as Saviour.

"So, we are all very happy you came, and we thank God for your ministry. It has given us a new vision of the value of souls. Our church is now upon a higher plane of spiritual blessings and power.

"We would like to have 500 copies of your tract 'How to Be Saved,' 200 copies 'Baptism,' and 200 copies 'Tobacco.' We want them for distribution here in the church.

"Trusting we may have the blessing and joy of your ministry again in the not too far distant future, I am,

"Yours in His name.

(Signed) "H. A. Keithley."

votes and public protests, with letters to the newspapers and congressmen, and use every ounce of influence we can bring to bear to put a stop to the wicked exploitation of soldier boys and sailors.

And lastly, let us earnestly pray that God will give such a turning of our hearts in repentance, such humiliation because of our sins, such a new seeking of the way of God, that He can smile upon us in righteousness and kiss us with mercy and forgiveness and heal our land. Let us not pray for God to come and take our side in our wickedness and unbelief, but rather let us pray that God will turn us so we can be on His side and then have His blessing.

In my own secret devotions, and at the family altar, I have felt earnestly led to pray about the war. Will you do the same?

It would be well for you to read again II Kings 19 or Isaiah 37. Both these chapters tell the story of King Hezekiah's prayer to God when Sennacherib's Assyrian army surrounded Jerusalem, and when the blasphemous threats of Rabshakeh came before Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah. Read kind Hezekiah's heart-broken prayer to God, then how the angel of the Lord that night slew a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the tents of the besieging armies, and how Sennacherib then defeated went home to be defeated in the house of his own heathen god in whom he trusted. Christians have a right to pray. Oh, may God give us a heart to pray for our country and for our allies in this hour of need!

Teacher Saved

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" by Editor John R. Rice and that, "After reading it, I realized I, too, was a sinner," as she words it. She was evidently active in a large rural church, taught a class of fifty. Now that she is saved she is ordering fifty copies of the little book "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" to give to the members of her class. I pray that a number may be converted to Christ through this message.

A copy of this little booklet may be had upon request, without charge. Simply say, "Please send me a free copy of 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?'" by Evangelist John R. Rice. It is a sermon of twenty-four pages on making plain the way of salvation from the Word of God. It is attractively printed with large type on tinted paper, printed in brown ink. The cover has a picture of Paul and Silas with the Philippian jailer who asked the immortal question, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" There is a decision blank at the end of the message. Hundreds have been led to Christ through the gospel as presented in this little booklet.

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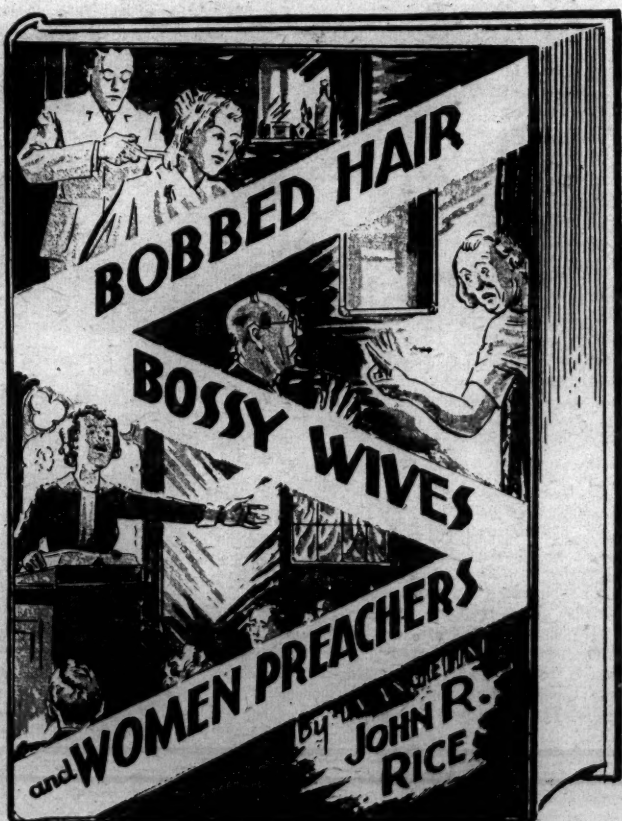
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The Influence of a Christian Home

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

people who recently joined a certain church on profession of faith made claim that the influence of their homes turned them to think on the way of salvation and eternal life. But Tom Paine said, "I was an infidel before I was five years old." And Lord Byron, marvelous poet that he was, debauchee that he was, mistreated by his mother when he was a crippled child, said, "Untrained in youth my heart to tame, my springs of life were poisoned."

Not just Sunday religion do we need, not just company religion where we are better to visitors in our homes than to loved ones with whom we live. Not just pleasant day piety, but piety for old black Friday and blue Monday, and worrisome Wednesday, and trying Tuesday, and tribulation Thursday, and Satanic Saturday. Only in this way can homes build character.

William Lyon Phelps, Bible and English teacher and great Christian, recently said, "I am extremely grateful to my parents for the religious and spiritual training they gave me. Every day of my life I am grateful. I would rather belong to the church than to any other organization, society or club. I would rather be a church member than to receive any honor in the world. The hardest task in the world is the bringing up of children, and the chief reason is that example is so much more important than precept." Can parents lie about a child's age and teach it truthfulness? Can parents receive too much change and keep that change and expect the child to be honest? Can parents tell "little white lies" and expect their children to tell the truth? Can parents refuse to pray and expect to have prayerful children? Can parents habitually absent themselves from church and expect their children to love and properly evaluate the church?

3. There must be tongue rule in the home.

"If any man among you seem to be religious, and brideth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, that man's religion is vain." If people do not rule their tongues in the home, happiness lies stark dead on the hearthstone. When the husband's position as head of the household is maintained by loudness of voice, strength of arm, or fire of temper, the republic of domestic bliss has become a despotism that neither God nor man can abide. And when the wife, instead of revering her husband, is always wrangling or railing at him, it makes doleful living—makes him long for a lodge in some vast wilderness—and makes much matrimonial milk turn to clabber. Spurgeon once said, "It must be a good thing when such women are hoarse; and it is a pity that they have not as many blisters on their tongues as they have teeth in their jaws." God save us from husbands and wives who are angels in the street, saints in the church, devils in the home. I have never tasted these bitter herbs in my own life, but I pity from my heart those who have this every day of their life. "How," Spurgeon asks, "would you like a world where all the skies hurtled with storms and all seas are storm ridden and all mountain streams are raving mad, frothing at the mouth with mud foam, with simoons blowing among the hills—with never a lark's carol or a water fowl's splash, but only a bear's bark, a panther's scream, a wolf's howl, a boar's grunt, a mad bull's bellow?"

Spiritually dark homes make bad boys and turn bad girls into bad women. I fear that if musicians were as blundering in the musical realm as we are in showing spirit-

ual piety in the home, what a mournful monotony of jangling disharmony our musical efforts would be! If bankers were as thoughtless in handling funds as many are in the home, they would be forced to wear clothes not found in a haberdasher's shop, and to talk to visitors through a wire screen. If doctors were as careless in their practice of medicine as many of us are in our manifestations of a Christ-like spirit in the home, there would be large additions to all our cemeteries. Let us learn first to show piety at home—hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, yearly—all the time.

4. Love must be professed and possessed.

Without love no amount of luxurious furnishing can make a happy home. With love a one-room cabin or a two-room flat can be a home. Love is the chief luxury of any home. The real walls of the home are not made of wood or brick or stone, but of truth, love, loyalty. The real curtains of a home are not woven of lace, but out of discretion. The real food of a home is not meat, not bread, but thoughtfulness and unselfishness. The real drink of a home is not wine, not water, not milk, but love which is both a food and an intoxicant. The real light in every home is not of electric lights by night nor of the sun by day, but of loyalty, love, courtesy—always in dear eyes shining, always in true hearts burning. The home is not a place where we lay off our clothes, but our cares—not a place where we are to shake fists and point critical fingers, but to bend knees in earnest prayer and to have the tongues of the just, more to be valued than choice silver.

A man's home is a real fortress in a warring world, where a woman buckles on his armor in the morning as he goes forth to the battles of the day and soothes his wounds when he comes home at night. But let us not forget that there is a vast difference in a house and a home. A house is built by human hands, but a home is built by human hearts. A house is built of such materials as carpenters use, but a home is built of invisible things of the spirit. Money buys the materials for a house, but the elements that go to make a home are priceless—for above rubies. A house may be destroyed, but no power, neither fire nor flood nor earthquake nor storms, can destroy a real home. Only one calamity can ruin a home—the death of love. When love dies, the home is in ruins—and all the material riches, successes and pleasures of living cannot supply what has been lost. The home is more than the house. It shelters it, but love makes a house into a home and love works a miracle. Does not the house stand with sightless windows, unopened doors, hearthstone cold, spirit dead until love comes in? Yes, tables, chairs, chests, beds—are all stiff impersonal things that stand apart until two people with love in their hearts take over this house—and then these cold things warm up and become alive. Look at the dented cushion, the lighted lamp beside the table, the books on the shelves. Listen to the sound of voices. There seems to be a sort of a breathing about them all. Love has taken charge. Only love will keep orange blossoms from turning into lemon peel. Only love that suffers long and is kind, vaunting not itself, can keep wedding bells from turning into tolling bells that announce the death of the home.

5. We need breeding and rearing of men.

A modern poet recently put it this way:

You talk of your grade of cattle,
And plan for a higher strain;
You double the food of pasture,
You heap up measures of grain,
You draw on the wits of the nation,
You better the barn and the pen,
But what are you doing, my brothers,
To better the breed of men?

What of your boy? Have you measured
His needs for the growing years?
Does your mark as his sire in his features
Mean less than your brand in your steers?
Thoroughbred! That is your watchword.

For stable, for pasture, for pen;
But what is your word for the homestead?
Answer, you breeders of men!

6. Christ must be given a large place in the home.

We have something of what that home would be when we study the New Testament, for Paul gives us a picture of the domestic life of Spirit-filled believers.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.—Eph. 6:1-4. That claims the attention of all children. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord" (Eph. 5:22). "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Eph. 5:25). "Walk in love as dear children." "Let them learn first to show piety at home."

In the home, if the mother is devoted to a life of amusement and dominated by the fashions of this world, the children conform to that pattern of character and conduct. If the father is more intent on accumulating money than on living a high and holy life, the children drink in his mammonistic spirit and imbibe his godless commercialism. On the other hand, if both parents are prayerful in spirit and exhale in their daily life the fragrance of piety, the children fall under that Christian spirit and derive their type of life from the pressure it brings to bear upon them.

Unfortunately for our country, multitudes of homes are as pagan as any found in heathen lands. Such godless homes hardly deserve the holy name of home at all. The house in which the parents and children live is little more than a place for lodging and feeding. To it they go as animals go to their shelter and their food from day to day, and of that the outcome is rank animalism in the form of human nature. Let us not forget that the home is the unit of Christian civilization—provided it is civilizing and Christianizing in its character. But many homes are not units of civilization; they are units of paganism and forces that damage all who live with them. When will we never learn that it is better for children to be brought up amid some physical discomforts rather than to live in an atmosphere unfriendly to faith and unfavorable to spiritual religion?

We need to get back to God's standards for a Christian home as Christ would have us to maintain it. How we need to exalt the sacredness of the marriage tie! How we need to give Christ the throne, not the footstool in our homes! How we need to offer Him the whole house instead of the attic or the cellar! We need Christ-like homes where the Bible is read daily, where prayer is made daily, where love is expressed daily, where the whole family attends church together, where conversation about the things of the kingdom of God is a rule rather than an exception, where the family income is tithed and taken to God's house, where God's law of piety and conduct is respected, where parents understand that children do not have to understand all the Bible to be saved. What child has to know about the laws of gravitation to learn to walk? What child has to know that there are seven colors in every ray of light in order to recognize its mother's face? What child has to know the velocity of sound waves in order to know its father's voice? When will the homes cease to handicap churches by telling children that they are not old enough to trust Christ? Did the children in the wilderness when they were snake-bitten have to die because they were too young to look on the brazen serpent on the pole? Must we tamely submit to the indifference of parents and try to make a puzzle out of God's plan of salvation and thus see our boys and girls go the way to eternal doom and death? God forbid! If many of our children were as dumb in their books at school as many parents seem to believe they are as to the plan of salvation, many children would get their high

school diplomas at forty and fifty years of age. Let us give Christ the center in all of our homes—attics, cellars, kitchens, bedrooms, closets, parlors, all. Then most of what heaven is our homes will be to the glory of God and the happiness of human families. I put on your heart what Grace Noll Crowell wrote as to our homes:

Here Christ shall come and here
He shall abide;
Our table shall be set for our
great guest—
Our lamps be lit, our hearts be
warm and wide;
And here He shall find shelter,
food, and rest.

And He will talk with us beside
our fire,
And He will walk with us
through every task.
We can confide every hope and every
desire,
No question be too great or
small to ask.

Because He lives with us, is one
of us,
We shall take care no evil shall
be heard—
Because His ways are kind and
courteous,
We shall watch our ways in every
spoken word.

This is our new house. Lord, be
thou its head.
We gladly share its simple fare
with Thee.
Sit at our table, break and bless
our bread—
And make us worthy of Thy
company.

IV. Thus Trusting Christ, Honoring Christ, and Serving Christ, We Shall Be Ready for the Heavenly Home

What Mary and Martha said to Jesus, we could say concerning homes that are just houses today—"Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." There are countless homes that have become domestic tombs built by no other cause than this—Christless hearts that walk a Christless way. Domestic skeletons over our land represent blighted and blasted homes; and these blighted and blasted homes represent husbands and wives who sincerely resolved to build and maintain a home, but later compromised on a house. Many young people have started out with the idea that a fine house and fine furnishings and fine social contacts and a fine bank account can assure a happy home. Journeying with this assumption, they inevitably find that fine carpets are thorny roads, that some fine social friends are fair weather friends, and that fine bank accounts have less value than they believed—and that when they have won the fine house and fine furnishings and fine shine in the social circle, they have no home to put in their house. They have sacrificed the things that make a home for a house. The chill of death is in the house. The fires of love have gone out. The darkness of the grave broods there. The grave clothes of the home that should have been in their house have been woven in the loom of ill temper, in the loom of selfishness, in the loom of wastefulness, in the loom of unfaithfulness, or in the loom of wrong emphasis. Often the luxury and self-indulgence which parents bestow exclude "the atmospheric pressure of godliness." Only the Lord of life can bring these dead homes back to life. The Lord who has power over death and the grave. Jesus rebuked the people of His day by asking, "Is not the life more than the food that sustains it?" "Is not the body more than the clothing that covers it?" We might justifiably ask today, "Is not the home more than the house that shelters it?" Only as we get and have and hold the truth that Jesus should have and hold reign in our lives and homes will we be ready for abundant entrance into the heavenly home—when the summons shall come "to join that innumerable caravan." Only in this way can we stand before Him in that solemn and glorious hour unashamed and unafraid.

Some day we must leave our earthly homes—for death, whose only palace is a huge sepulchre, whose only pleasure fountains are the falling tears of the world, whose only laughter is a wail, whose only music is a sob of broken hearts, is busy. Some day, if the Lord Jesus lingers longer, you

and I will have to stand face to face with the black door of death and deal with death—the one sanctity that all men respect, the one gesture that melts the hardest, the one awe that appalls the impious, the one stroke of common sense that annihilates our folly, the one preacher of righteousness and justice and nobility whose lips cannot be stilled.

I thank God that when we are summoned to go from our earthly homes that there is a heavenly home already prepared for those who love Him and that home is the most beautiful place that the wisdom of God could conceive and the power of God could prepare. Oh, to be at home with Him! Home—with its music! Home—with beauty for our eyes! Home—with joy for our hearts! Home—with service for our hands! Home—with songs of praise for our mouths! Home—with testimony for our lips! Home—with worship for God.

Just here I am made to think of the scene set forth in the Revelation:

After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes, and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto the living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

—Revelation 7:9-10, 13-17

Let us so live that when our summons shall come to leave our earthly homes we can calmly and trustfully say what the poet said:

Adieu, sweet friends, I have waited
long,
To hear the message that calls me
home;
And now it comes like a low sweet
song,
Of welcome over the river's foam;
And my heart shall ache and my
feet shall roam—
No more, no more; I'm going home.

Home! Where no storm, where no
tempest raves
In the light of the calm eternal
day;
Where no willows weep over lonely
graves,
And the tears from our eyelids are
kissed away,
And my soul shall sigh and my feet
shall roam—
No more, no more; I'm going home.

Friends will be there I have loved
long ago—
And joy like a river around me will
flow.

So, in thought of that day when the pierced hands that opened to us the gates of grace, shall open to us the gates of glory, let us profess and possess and manifest the religion of our Lord Jesus in our earthly homes.

(From the book "Glory Today for Conquest Tomorrow," published by Zondervan. Used with the express permission of Zondervan Publishing House and Dr. Lee.)

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